

Nivedita credits her father as her science hero; "He is always interested in science and is the one who nurtured my love for science." She wants to become a scientist, "because furthering and researching science makes the most impact not only on the current generation, but on future ones as well."

Mr. Speaker, given the renewed commitment President Bush and Congress have made to the education of our youth, it is clear that positive role models are more important now than ever. Through her commitment to her education and community Nivedita embodies the socially conscious values we as a nation applaud in our young people, and she serves as an excellent example to her fellow students in Miami-Dade. I know that Miami-Dade is very lucky to have Nivedita Bhat as part of our community and I join with the students, faculty, and community in congratulating her on this achievement.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RAUL RIES

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Raul Ries, Senior Pastor at Calvary Chapel Golden Springs in Diamond Bar, CA. During the past 30 years of ministry, Pastor Ries has touched the lives of many. His story is extraordinary; Pastor Ries beat astounding odds and has since shared his incredible story and love of God to tens of thousands of people throughout the United States.

Pastor Ries grew up watching the brutal abuses of his alcoholic father. As he became a young man, the behaviors he vehemently despised as a child became his own. After periods of violence and many altercations, he was given the "option" to go to Jail, or to join the United States Marine Corps. Pastor Ries, an eighth degree black belt in the martial art of Kung Fu San Soo, headed towards Vietnam for a special combat role with the Bounty Hunters, a very aggressive Marine battalion. He received two Purple Hearts for his acts of valor in combat, but after witnessing the deaths of his close friends and fellow Marines, his anger towards the world turned into fury.

A few years after his discharge from the Marine Corps, Pastor Ries hit rock bottom. Although he owned a successful Martial Arts studio and was married with several children, his anger reigned supreme. He came home one evening to find his wife's bags packed; after enduring four years of abuse, she was leaving. Pastor Ries loaded a gun and waited for his family to arrive, intending to put an end to their lives. It was then that he turned on the television to see Pastor Chuck Smith talking about the love of Christ. He fell to his knees and prayed, knowing this was the only way his life could change. At this point, the multitude of anger and hate he felt disappeared, and Pastor Ries found peace.

Now, thirty years later, Pastor Ries over- sees a congregation of over 12,000 people. He is heard daily on the thirty minute syndicated radio program, Somebody Loves You. His Somebody Loves You Ministries reach out to people of all ages, but special emphasis are placed on reaching inner-city youth, gang

members, and troubled teens. He also serves as an evangelist for the Somebody Loves You Crusades, events that combine non-traditional Christian music with a straightforward gospel message telling all about the love of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House please join me in honoring and commending Pastor Raul Ries for his 30 years of ministry, as he has exhibited selflessness, service, and devotion to the community, so others may experience the great things God has done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 442, Thrift Savings Plan Catch-Up Contributions; Merit Systems Protection Board Reauthorization; Office of Special Counsel Reauthorization. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 443, Sudan Peace Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 444, Transatlantic Security and NATO Enhancement Resolution. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

AMENDING INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 BASED ON 2000 CEN- SUS DATA

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of expanding the areas of Renewal Communities, RC, based on the most recent census information. This is an issue of great importance to Western New York, since Rochester, Buffalo, and Niagara Falls are each designated as Renewal Communities. The RC Initiative combines tax credits and other provisions designed to revive some of the nation's more impoverished, distressed areas. These cities can take advantage of federal wage credits, tax deductions, capital gains exclusions, and bond financing to stimulate economic development and job growth. Each incentive is tailored to meet the particular needs of a business and offers a significant inducement for companies to locate and hire additional workers.

Rochester needs these incentives to expand jobs and promote business investment in our downtown area. The statistics from my district paint the bleak picture. In the past year, we lost 12,400 jobs, including 300 from Global Crossing; the jobless rate is at an 18-year high; and in the last decade, 41 percent of Rochester citizens between the ages of 20 to 34 have left town.

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3100, which would allow the areas designated as renewal communities to be updated based on 2000 census data, instead of 1990 census data. Due to a loss of population in the 1990s, my area would

greatly benefit from this change. According to Fannie Mae, this technical change would allow 14 more census tracts to qualify in Rochester, 16 more tracts in Buffalo-Lackawanna, and seven additional census tracts in Niagara Falls.

Now that the House of Representatives has passed this legislation, I urge the Senate to quickly add its voice of approval before we adjourn for the year.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL INFORMA- TION SERVICE (UNIS)

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) on its 25th anniversary. In 1977, the Ukrainian National Information Service, the Washington bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, was established so that the Ukrainian American community's voice could be heard within the Washington establishment.

For a quarter of a century, UNIS has been representing the concerns of the Ukrainian community and has achieved many successes. During the time of UNIS' operation, the world has changed dramatically—the cold war came to an end, the Soviet Union disintegrated, and Ukraine regained its independence. UNIS made a significant contribution to those causes, as evident by constantly informing the American society about the plight of Ukrainians.

Representing the concerns of the Ukrainian American community, UNIS focuses its attention on the historical truth about Ukraine. One particularly sensitive issue is the 1932–1933 Famine-Genocide in Ukraine. While actively working to raise awareness of the evil that transpired in Ukraine nearly 70 years ago, UNIS is diligently pursuing efforts to allocate a plot of land in Washington, DC, on which the Ukrainian American community may erect a monument to the victims of this crime against humanity. I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of this bill.

In addition to promoting issues of concern, UNIS has created structures that help it work more effectively. An example of this occurred in 1997 when UNIS was instrumental in the creation of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus—of which I am proud to be a member. The Congressional Ukrainian Caucus is a group of Members of Congress who take an interest in Ukraine and cooperate to promote better relations between Ukraine and the United States.

I am confident our cooperation with UNIS will continue in the future, and I congratulate UNIS on its silver anniversary.

MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues